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A TYPICAL CLINTON BUDGET, SAYS BENNETT

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Bob Bennett (R-Utah) today issued the following statement in reaction to the release of President Clinton's proposed 2001 budget:

"With this budget, the president takes credit for Republican ideas, blames Republicans for his own excesses, and then adds another layer of spending on top of that. In other words, it's a typical Clinton budget.

"There is increased funding for this, increased funding for that, additional money here, additional money there. It takes the general position that the Social Security surpluses should be saved for Social Security reform and debt reduction – exactly what we Republicans have been preaching all along. But he eyes the largest piece of the non-Social Security surplus -- 72 percent -- for new spending while allocating only 9 percent for tax cuts, and those may in fact be offset with increases in other places. I think this budget fails to recognize that we are really overcharging the American people for their government services."

Bennett noted that in the transportation area the Clinton budget proposes over \$50 million for Utah, including \$15 million for the University of Utah extension of the light-rail project, \$718,000 for the North-South light-rail project, and an additional \$35 million to meet the needs of the 2002 Olympic and Paralympic games, in planning, bus maintenance and facilities, and loaned busses.

Additional details on Clinton requests for Utah projects will be forthcoming.

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<http://www.senate.gov/~bennett>